

GERMANY AGAIN TALKS OF PEACE

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AUSTRIANS LOSE NEW BATTLES; STILL IN FLIGHT BEYOND PIAVE

GERMANY DISCLAIMS IDEA OF DOMINATING THE WORLD; DOUBTS A PEACE BY ARMS

Von Kuehlmann, Stating War Aims, Declares Empire Would Not Be Deaf to Proposals — No Pledge for Belgium.

AMSTERDAM, June 25.—Germany's war aims were briefly set forth, the idea that she desired to secure world domination through the war disclaimed and the possibility for the conflict primarily placed upon Russia by Dr. Richard von Kuehlmann, the German Foreign Secretary, in a speech to the Reichstag in Berlin yesterday.

While declaring that what was desired for the German people and their allies was "a free, strong, independent existence" within the boundaries drawn for them "by history," the Foreign Secretary said Germany would have to decline to make any prior concessions by stating her position as to Belgium in a way which would bind her without similarly binding Germany's enemies.

Referring to the responsibility for the war, as he viewed it, Dr. von Kuehlmann said:

"I do not believe any responsible man in Germany, not even the Emperor or the members of the Imperial Government, ever for a moment believed they could win the domination of Europe by starting this war. The idea of world domination in Europe is Utopian, as was proved by Napoleon." READY TO LISTEN TO PLAIN PEACE PROPOSALS.

With reference to peace, Dr. von Kuehlmann quoted from former Premier Asquith's speech of May 16, in which he said that the British Government would not turn a deaf ear to a peace proposal if it was not couched in ambiguous terms.

"We likewise can make the same declaration," added the Foreign Secretary, "knowing it to be also our policy."

"Once the moment arrives—when I care not to prophesy—that the nations which are at present locked in battle will exchange peace views, one of the preliminary conditions must be certain degrees of mutual confidence in each other's honesty and candor."

"For so long," continued Dr. von Kuehlmann, "as every overture is regarded by others as a peace offensive—as a trap or as something false for the purpose of sowing dissension between allies; so long as every attempt at a rapprochement is at once violently denounced by the enemies of a rapprochement in the various countries, so long will it be impossible to see how any exchange of ideas leading to peace can be begun."

"In view of the magnitude of this war and the number of powers, including those from overseas, that are engaged, it and can hardly be expected through purely military decisions alone and without recourse to diplomatic negotiations."

WAR AIMS OUTLINED BY VON KUEHLMANN.

After declaring that the revelations that had been made showed Russia as the power which planned and desired the war, with France abetting her, England's attitude strengthened the Russian desire for conflict. Dr. von Kuehlmann again declared that Germany had not entertained any belief that this war could lead even to the domination of Europe and much less that of the world.

In introducing his statement of the

GERMANS BOMB HOSPITAL, KILLING MANY PATIENTS

Doctors and Nurses Buried in Ruins—Fire Increases Casualties—Brave Rescues.

CANADIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, June 25 (by the Canadian Press).—A Canadian hospital, on a site behind the British front occupied for eighteen months, was bombed by the Germans last night and several persons, including doctors and officers, were killed or seriously wounded.

The bombing of this hospital followed the bombing of two other Canadian hospitals near the coast. The building on which bombs were dropped last night sheltered thousands of wounded during the fighting last March.

The roofs were painted with a great red cross and the buildings have been used for military purposes since the war began. German squadrons which have often flown over it in daylight raids have hitherto dropped no bombs near the buildings.

One three-story wing, which was about 200 yards long, caught fire after being cut clean in half by a bomb. Bravely the staff of the hospital started to rescue the helpless patients cut off by the flames in an adjacent wing. Doctors and orderlies brought them through shattered windows and down ladders to safety.

The first bomb went through two floors and into the operating room, where the night staff was working on some urgent cases that had just arrived. The operating staff, including nurses, was buried under an avalanche of debris, and in a few minutes the whole operating section was a flaming tomb. Bursting tubes of ether and hydrogen added to the horrors.

Fortunately, two other surgical teams had just halted in their work and had gone to mess for midnight supper or the casualty list of doctors and nurses would have been much heavier.

Some of the personnel whose quarters were on the top floor of the wrecked building had marvellous escapes. One corporal who slept directly over the operating theatre was blown free by the first explosion. He was left isolated on a burning beam, however, and was rescued with difficulty by means of ropes and ladders. Although badly scratched he worked heroically in saving the patients.

ITALY'S GREAT AVIATOR, CAPT. BERACCA, KILLED

Machine Falls in Flames Behind the Austrian Line—Body Found After Retreat.

ITALIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Monday, June 24 (Associated Press).—The body of Capt. Beracca, Italy's famous aviator, whose machine fell in flames inside the Austrian lines on June 21 after a battle with enemy airmen, was found today during the Italian advance. The aviator's body was only slightly burned. The Austrians had removed the machine.

WASHINGTON, June 25.—A dispatch from Rome to the Italian Embassy says that a body was found in the ruins of a house in the town of Capri, which was the last place where Capt. Beracca was seen. This leads to the belief that while his machine was being forced up to descend into the enemy's lines he killed himself rather than be captured. The loss of Beracca is deeply felt in Italy as he was the leading aviator of the Italian Army, having in 1917 won the distinction of being the first to shoot down an enemy machine.

CABINET SPLIT ON PROHIBITION; DANIELS FOR IT

Burleson and Hurley Fear It Would Delay Prosecution of the War.

WASHINGTON, June 25.—Cabinet members were sharply divided on the prohibition question at the hearing of the Senate Agriculture Committee today, with Secretary of the Navy Daniels espousing the measure and Postmaster General Burleson on the side of the "wet."

Mr. Daniels contended that the efficiency of the navy yard has increased wherever prohibition has been adopted.

Mr. Burleson said such a law "might result in delaying the successful prosecution of the war."

Chairman Hurley of the Shipping Board opposed prohibition, declaring: "We can't afford to experiment with a nation's destiny at this time." Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, and Percy H. Johnston, Vice President of the Chemical National Bank of New York, also opposed the proposed Jones amendment to the Emergency Agricultural Bill.

"The great bulk of the men in shipyards are capable and trustworthy," said Secretary Daniels, in advocating prohibition. "In every case where prohibition has been adopted the change has resulted in increased efficiency. Newport, R. I., and Mare Island, Cal., are two of the places where a great improvement has been brought about."

"Many protested the Mare Island ruling at the time. There are few opposed to-day. A destroyer was recently launched there in record-breaking time."

"At Newport conditions were so deplorable that it would have been a crime to have permitted them to continue. It is a mistake to think men in the yards would loathe work because of prohibition."

"When Congress says 2,000,000 men in the army and more than 400,000 in the navy shall be denied liquor, I do not think you are encroaching on the right of citizens to make the same ruling."

Mr. Daniels said he believed the workers in the shipyards to be as patriotic as the men in the service and quite as willing to make any sacrifice for the good of the country.

NO PATIENCE WITH FANATICS, SAYS BURLESON.

"This is no time to have patience with fanatics," declared Postmaster General Burleson. "Nothing should be done to lessen the strength or diminish the energy of the American people. I don't believe in class legislation. If I believed this legislation would help bring the war speedily to an end I would be in favor of it at once. It seems to me that you gentlemen should seek information of the Food Administrator or the Secretary of Agriculture."

"I believe this legislation would be disturbing and might result in delaying the prosecution of the war. I do not think it would be disastrous."

"I have always believed in the personal liberty of the citizen and have been against prohibition as I am now."

Mr. Hurley trembled as he spoke, knowing whether prohibition would or would not be adopted.

"But," he said, "I don't want to take any chances."

"There would be some risk in wartime prohibition than in non-war time prohibition," Mr. Hurley declared.

Mr. Hurley, answering many ques-

ARMY OF THE AUSTRIAN ARCHDUKE TRAPPED BY ITALIANS ON PIAVE

AMERICANS CREEP AND CRAWL, DROP DOWN INTO DECLIVITIES, HUNTING HIDDEN MACHINE GUNS

Pershing Announces Advance Near Chateau-Thierry and Repulse of Attack at Torcy. [AMERICAN REPORT]

WASHINGTON, June 25.—The following communique from Gen. Pershing was made public to-day:

"Section A—Local operations continued in the Chateau-Thierry region, where we made further advances, capturing five machine guns and other material."

"A German counter-attack against our lines at Torcy broke down with heavy losses under our rifle, machine gun and artillery fire."

"As the result of a raid executed by the enemy against our troops in Lorraine several of our men are missing."

WITH THE AMERICANS ON THE MARNE, June 25 (United Press).—The American artillery to-day heavily shelled German positions north of Belleau wood. The Germans last night sent up rockets calling for a barrage at every suspicious sound from the wood, but the Americans made no infantry attack.

The increasing audacity of the German airmen resulted in one of them dropping in flames into the American lines this morning following an encounter with a French machine.

An American patrol west of Chateau-Thierry last night brought in the bodies of two Germans, which enabled them to identify the latest German division to arrive in this sector as the 201st.

The fight in which the Americans completed their conquest of Belleau Wood was one of the strangest of the war.

German machine guns, cunningly hidden in trees and on pulleys between trees, were fired from different points. Most of these enemy weapons were behind rocks, from where they spat continuously.

The Americans crawled and wriggled forward, dropping with the aid of roots and branches down into declivities, where they would lie motionless for a moment. Then they would resume their stealthy progress.

Eventually they swarmed over many emplacements, only to find that the Germans had fled with their guns, leaving the ammunition behind. A series of such evacuations resulted in an appreciable advance of the American line.

"They're tigers," the American commander said this afternoon, referring to his men. And with his reddish, two days' growth of beard he looked like a tiger, too. "After what I've seen of them in action, I believe those men would bite off their bayonets if they were ordered out of the fight now."

ALL POLES ELIMINATED FROM SLAVIC LEGION

Senate Approves Unit After Acting to Prevent Interference With Organization in France.

WASHINGTON, June 25.—Organization of a volunteer "Slavic Legion" in the United States for service at the front, composed of members of oppressed races of Austria and Germany, was approved to-day by the Senate. The amendment provided for the Legion, but excluding Polish because of assimilation in France of a Polish Army was added to the \$200,000,000 Army Appropriation Bill by unanimous vote in the Senate.

The Senate also adopted an amendment to the bill providing that French, Greek and South American countries or any other nations fighting Germany may train troops in the United States.

Paris Placed in Army Zone.

PARIS, June 25.—An official order to-day placed Paris in the army zone.

Public life will not be disturbed.

(For Racing Results See Page 2.)

\$16,000,000,000 IN BONDS MAY BE YEAR'S TOTAL

\$4,000,000,000 Authorization to Be Asked of Congress for Next Liberty Loan.

WASHINGTON, June 25.—Additional authorization for Liberty Bond issues will be asked soon of Congress by the Treasury to provide for the fourth Liberty Loan, which will be at least \$4,000,000,000. Only \$3,000,000,000 of authorized bonds remain to be issued and the Treasury probably will ask Congress to provide for \$4,000,000,000 more, to permit an even larger issue than \$3,000,000,000 if this should be found necessary.

Other bond bills will be brought in the session opening in December to provide for the remainder of the fiscal year. If expenditures for the fiscal year ending next month amount to \$2,000,000,000, as estimated by the Treasury, and Congress enacts a revenue measure to raise \$3,000,000,000, the \$15,000,000,000 difference will be covered by bond issues.

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Destroyers Go Up Rivers and Batter the Enemy, While Cavalry and Infantry Keep Up Chase on 20- Mile Front East of PIAVE.

WASHINGTON, June 25.—An official despatch from Rome to-day says the Austrians are still in full retreat. Papers taken from prisoners show that Austria had not contemplated the possibility of defeat and was promising her soldiers this offensive would be the last stroke to put Italy out of the war.

The despatch also further announced that Italian forces are preparing for a great drive against the Austrians in the Trentino and expect to repeat the disaster inflicted upon the enemy along the Piave.

Gen. Diaz is cautiously pursuing the battered Austrian armies because the advance of the Italians leaves their left flank open to an attack by the Austrian-German reserves in the dominating hills of the upper Piave. Austrian disorder is expected to permit the Italians to strongly fortify themselves on the east bank of the Piave.

HYDROPLANE BOMBS FIRE AUSTRIAN SHIP

The report to the Embassy said Italian hydroplanes set fire to a large Austrian ship steaming near the eastern Adriatic coast.

The King has awarded the Gold Medal for Bravery to the leaders of the Polish Legions fighting at the Italian front for the exceptional bravery demonstrated during the recent actions.

Despatches to the Embassy announced the co-operation of the Italian Navy in the counter-offensive that caused the Austrian retreat. Destroyers battered the Austrian positions along the Tagliamento River and north of Castellazzo, while marine battalions from the warships advanced across the Piave and took hundreds of prisoners.

Austrian aviators attacked Brindisi during the battle but were driven off with the loss of two planes. Italian and British aviators bombed Cattaro and Durazzo across the Adriatic Sea in retaliation.

ITALIAN OFFENSIVE BEGUN, SAYS LONDON.

LONDON, June 25.—The Italians have started a counter-offensive in the mountain region, it was learned from an authoritative source this afternoon. The Austrians are making a strong resistance, but the Italians have gained.

A despatch from Rome says the Italians have occupied enemy trenches on Mont Valberia and Monte Asolone and have captured Hill 1473.

"Prisoners are still flowing in," the statement said.

AUSTRIAN ARMIES TRAPPED; MUST GIVE UP OR BE WIPED OUT

Forces Commanded by Archduke Joseph and Gen. von Wurm Reported Hard Pressed by the Italian Troops.

WITH THE ITALIAN ARMIES IN THE FIELD, June 24 (night) (United Press).—The Austrian retreat continues. It is reported that the troops of Archduke Joseph and Gen. von Wurm must surrender or be annihilated.

Italian cavalry is pursuing the enemy far beyond the Piave toward the line between Conegliano and Oderzo. The infantry has followed the cavalry across and is operating on the east bank at three points on the twenty-mile front between Montebelluna and Ponte di Piave.

The Piave is choked with enemy dead and the debris of their equipment. The attempt of the Austrian War Office to represent the retirement as voluntary is false. In only a few scattered places could the river be forded, and these were under constant pounding by the Italian artillery and Allied airmen. The few bridges also were pelted with shells and air bombs.

It is positively established that the enemy's losses are even greater in the retreat than as a direct result of the Italian counter-offensive.

Allied air forces were particularly active in harassing the Austrian

(Continued on Second Page.)